

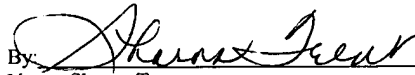


IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Xu et al. Examiner: Unknown
Serial No.: 10/646,627 Group Art Unit: Unknown
Filed: 08/22/03 Docket: 758.1254USC1
Confirmation No.: Notice of Allow. Date:
Due Date: 10/25/03
Title: FILTER ELEMENT HAVING SEALING MEMBERS AND METHODS

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Suppl. IDS, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on October 2, 2003.

By: 
Name: Sharon Trent

Mail Stop Suppl. IDS
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

23552

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE


Sir:

We are transmitting herewith the attached:

- ☒ Transmittal Sheet in duplicate containing Certificate of Mailing
- ☒ Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement, Form 1449, 2 Reference(s)
- ☒ Return postcard

Please consider this a PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME for a sufficient number of months to enter these papers or any future reply, if appropriate. Please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725. A duplicate of this sheet is enclosed.

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.
P.O. Box 2903, Minneapolis, MN 55402-0903
612.332.5300

By: 
Name: Julie R. Daulton
Reg. No.: 36,414
JRD:S Trent



S/N 10/646,627

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:	Xu et al.	Examiner:	Unknown
Serial No.:	10/646,627	Group Art Unit:	Unknown
Filed:	08/22/03	Docket No.:	758.1254USC1
Title:	<u>FILTER ELEMENT HAVING SEALING MEMBERS AND METHODS</u>		

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By: 

Name: Sharon Trent

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b))

Mail Stop Supp. IDS

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

With regard to the above-identified application, the items of information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 are brought to the attention of the Examiner. At least some of the references were recently cited in an International Search Report mailed September 25, 2003.

This statement should be considered because it is submitted within three months of the filing date of the above-identified application, which is not an application under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d). Accordingly, no fee is due for consideration of the items listed on the enclosed Form 1449.

Certification Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.704(d)

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.704(d), the undersigned hereby certifies that each item listed on the enclosed Form 1449 was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application, and that this communication was not received by any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than thirty (30) days prior to the filing of this Information

Disclosure Statement. Accordingly, no patent term adjustment is due for the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(2), a copy of each document or other information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 is provided. Enclosed for the Examiner's information is a copy of the International Search Report. Applicant(s) note(s) reference(s) 5,792,247 and 5,820,646 also listed in the search report was/were previously cited to or by the Examiner.

No representation is made that a reference is "prior art" within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103 and Applicants reserve the right, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 or otherwise, to establish that the reference(s) are not "prior art." Moreover, Applicants do not represent that a reference has been thoroughly reviewed or that any relevance of any portion of a reference is intended.

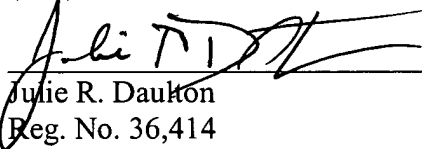
Consideration of the items listed is respectfully requested. Pursuant to the provisions of M.P.E.P. 609, it is requested that the Examiner return a copy of the attached Form 1449, marked as being considered and initialed by the Examiner, to the undersigned with the next official communication.

Please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725.

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.
P.O. Box 2903
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-0903
(612) 332-5300

Date: 10-2-03


Julie R. Daukon
Reg. No. 36,414
JRD:st

23552

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

O I P F
 OCT 06 2003
 PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form for next communication to the Applicant.	